

Consumer Advisory Team

The Issue: Raise Child Care Assistance to a 85% of the State Median Income with assurance of funding to avoid waiting lists.

Consumer Advisory Team

CHILD CARE FACTS

Research, Supporting Investment in Child Care

October, 2000

IOWA FACTS

- “Iowa is one of 40 states that do not require providers who care for children in their home to have any early childhood training prior to serving children.” (Family Well-Being and Welfare Reform in Iowa, p.23.)
- There are an estimated 100,262 (13.7%) children under 18 living in poverty in Iowa. (US Census Bureau)
- “Department of Education officials estimate **40** to 60 percent annual turnover among providers.” (Family Well-Being and Welfare Reform in Iowa, p. 24.)
- Iowa ranks second in the country in the number of working parent with children up to the age of five (79%) and first in the country in the number of working parents with school-age children (82%) (Iowa Child Care and Early Education Network).
- “Human Services expenditure in state fiscal year (SFY) 1997 accounted for 18% of the general fund. Of that, nearly half was spent on Medical Assistance.” (Family Well-Being and Welfare Reform in Iowa, p. 13.)
- Iowa reduced state FIP funding by about \$18.1 million and offset the decreased state funding with federal TANF monies.” (Family Well-Being and Welfare Reform in Iowa, p. 13.)
- 1,211 licensed child care centers and preschools in Iowa are eligible for accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Presently, only 163 programs are accredited (13%).
- “Less than one in five children in some form of child care receives a state subsidy to assist with the cost of care” -- “and only about 27% participate in FIP”(Family Well-Being and Welfare Reform in Iowa, p. 22.)
- “Iowa ranks second from the bottom in making low-income families eligible for child care assistance. Forty-eight states allow families with higher incomes to receive state subsidies.” (Family Well-Being and Welfare Reform in Iowa, p. 23.)
- Child Care Resource and Referral has identified a 59% gap between the supply and need for child care for children five years of age and younger. The identified gap for Iowa’s school-aged children is 89%.
- Child care costs are unaffordable for many of Iowa’s working families. A single parent with two children (an infant and a 2-year old) making \$20,000 per year would pay an average of 45% of the families total income for child care (\$8,995). For a two-parent family earning a median (\$48,167) income with an infant and a two-year old, the average cost for child care will take 19% of their annual budget (Iowa Child Care Resource and Referral System).

STATE POLICIES

- Many states use state median income to establish eligibility:
 - 9 Mississippi: 85% of its current state median income
 - 9 Maryland: 45% of the state median income
 - 9 North Carolina: raised income eligibility to \$2,719 for a family of three reflecting updated state median income data
- Florida raised income eligibility from 150% to 200% of the federal poverty level for the Child Care Executive Partnership Program, which is a small partnership between the state and business community to provide child care assistance.
- Indiana invested \$1 million for a two-year public/private partnership to assist communities in fostering collaborative relationships to increase quality, affordability and accessibility of child care.
- New Jersey established a new policy which, upon annual redetermination, families remain eligible until annual gross income exceeds 250% of the federal poverty level.

- Pennsylvania allows any family to enter with an income under 185% of the federal poverty level and maintain their eligibility if they earn up to 235% of the federal poverty level
- Florida's Gold Seal program includes incentives to achieve accreditation; an expansion of the state's T.E.A.C.H. initiative; and licensing improvements. Training hours were increased to 40 hours a year for centers and 30 hours a year for home providers. A sales tax exemption for educational materials and a property tax exemption for some programs.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

- *Child care is an economic good:*
 - ★ Increases productivity
 - ★ Makes more workers available (current worker shortage) - child care is needed to meet the demand of Iowa businesses
 - ★ Iowa has the highest level of 2 parent working families and 5th highest single parent workers
 - ★ Due to welfare reform single parents must work and they need support in the way of child care
 - ★ Child care is needed so that workers can improve their skills by attending work training
 - ★ Lack of adequate child care is related to high worker turnover
- Ability to work due to assistance with child care gives women a sense of personal value, increases responsibility and opportunities to make good choices (self-worth is greatly increased). (Consumer Advisory Team)
- Potential benefits of early childhood programs for the community and society include "increased economic participation by parents and the consequent boosts to tax receipts, lower welfare costs, increased public safety, lower costs to the justice system, and reduced expenditures on a wide range of public programs such as special education, foster care and children's protective services." (RAND Research Review vol. XXI, spring 1997)
- Child care, transportation, soft skills, mentoring, education and training: "This package of programs helps smooth the transition new workers often face, and can help low-wage families maintain viable living standards until they advance and earn higher wages. That, in turn, is advantageous for employers, because workers who do not have to worry about providing for their families, acquiring health benefits or accessing affordable child care are more likely to be good, reliable employees. (The Welfare to Work Partnership's Report to the President p 16)

COST SAVINGS

- There are no good cost-investment studies specific to child care, but several studies have been done on early intervention and health prevention programs.
- "The Perry Preschool Program cost, measured in 1996 dollars and discounted to the birth of the participating child, were about \$12,000 per child. (Investing in Our Children)
- In the case of the Perry Preschool¹ program, "forty percent of the savings to government are from reductions in criminal justice system costs, because treated children commit less crime as they transition through adolescence to adulthood. Greater

¹ The High/Scope Perry Preschool Project study consisted of 123 at-risk children and their parents providing them with center-based care, weekly home visits, low student teacher ratios (1:6), certified teachers for a period of five years between 1962 and 1967. Follow-up studies took place over until age 27.

tax revenues as a result of greater employment and income over the lifetime of the child accounts for 26% of the savings. Lower use of education services (such as special education) accounts for another 25% of the savings. Reduction in the child's lifetime usage of welfare accounts for the remaining 9% savings to government." (Investing in Our Children p 92)

- "By some estimates, they [childhood immunization] save, for each program dollar spent, between \$6 and \$30 in direct medical costs that would have been incurred had the disease and its complications not been prevented (Centers for Disease Control, 1990). WIC has been estimated to save between \$1.77 and \$3.13 in Medicaid costs per program dollar spent (Mathematica, 1985) Other programs may save the government money by keeping children off welfare or out of the criminal justice system. (Investing in Our Children p 7)
- Head Start, the principal federal child care development program for children in poverty, is so under-funded that it can serve only half of the eligible children, and can serve most of these for only part of the time parents are working. (America's Child Care Crisis)

"FAMILY FRIENDLY" WORK POLICIES

- "Workers who perceive that the organizational culture is supportive of their family and personal needs are less stressed, feel more successful in meshing work and family life, are more loyal to the company, are more committed to their employers, are more satisfied with their jobs, and are more likely to want to remain with their employers." (Ahead of the Curve)
- "While family-friendly policies and practices have grown over the past 2 decades, they tend to serve more advantaged workers." (Ahead of the Curve)
- "Family-Friendly benefits haven't improved significantly in the last five years. While 74 to 84 percent of employees have access to traditional -fringe benefits, only a minority have access to dependent-care benefits such as information and referrals for child care (20%), child care services (11%) or assistance (13%). (The 1997 National Study of the Changing Workforce. Families and Work Institute.)
- "Only 36% of lower income parents and 37% of single parents can take time off to care for sick children without losing pay." (Ahead of the Curve)
- "To bring about change, organizations must realize that work-family issues are reflected in corporate cultures and require systematic, corporation-wide solutions.. that create more responsive work environment that take employees' needs as well as business needs into account and yields a more significant bottom line." (Ahead of the Curve)
- Business cares because, " industry will be unable to grow and compete because an expanding educational underclass will be unable to meet the demands of business." (Children in Need: Investment Strategies for the Educationally Disadvantaged)
- "Creating an environment where employees feel valued and supported, and where they can focus on meeting customers' needs is a key to market leadership." (Ahead of the Curve)
- "Retention is employers' most important reason for instituting work-life programs." (Ahead of the Curve)

WORKING PARENTS

- "More than half of employed women with children under the age of six say that child care is a serious problem." (Ahead of the Curve)

- 32% of employees with young children work evenings, nights, split and variable shifts -- unpredictable work schedules make it particularly difficult to arrange stable child care (Ahead of the Curve)
- "A major finding of the Family and Work Institute's research is that the working parents who have the greatest need for services and flexibility are often the least likely to receive them." (Ahead of the Curve)
- "In a survey conducted by the National Conference of State Legislatures, 80% of employers reported that child care problems force employees to lose work time. (Ahead of the Curve)
- "Increases in the costs of child care significantly decrease the probability that women with children will work. However, we find that the stability and quality of child care have much larger effects on the probability of work than do costs. (NBER: Child care and the welfare to work transition. 2000)
- "Data from the 1989 National Child Care Survey show that one-third of working poor mothers (income below poverty) and more than one-fourth of working class mothers (annual income above poverty but below \$25,000) work weekends." (Ahead of the Curve)
- "Parents pay 75 cents out of every dollar spent on child care in the United States...businesses pays only a penny." (Ahead of the Curve)
- Employed mothers with children under the age of six miss an average of 8.5 days per year because of family-related issues such as sick children...employed fathers miss an average of 5 days." (Ahead of the Curve)
- Research done by John Hopkins University, in a study called "The Diversity of Welfare Leavers," found that "women with lower levels of education, worse levels of health status, with younger children, and who are themselves young have considerably lower employment rates and post-welfare income levels."
- "Stress ranks as working women's number one problem."
- "The Child Care and Employment Turnover study found that mothers who do not have access to a center-based care program within 10 minutes from home were almost twice as likely to leave their jobs as those who did." (Ahead of the Curve)

RESEARCH SUPPORTS EARLY INVESTMENT IN CHILDREN

- In an article in Newsweek, Dr Berry Brazelton² explains; "Our children can't wait. We can't afford to ride insensitively over these vital early years any longer. Helping parents to help their children may cost businesses or the government some money. But if we fail, the cost to our nation will be far higher. And our own children and grandchildren will pay too high a price."
- "By age seven, children are set in achievement pathways that tend to last throughout their academic careers." (Ahead of the Curve)
- "The first and most basic... is the need for consistent nurturing care with one or a few caregivers. Most recent studies have found that family patterns that undermine this ongoing nurturing, care may lead to significant cognitive and emotional problems, while even the simplest interactions help a child grow." (Newsweek: Brazelton & Greenspan. 2000)

² Brazelton is professor emeritus of pediatrics at Harvard Medical School:

- “Teachers equate ready to learn with being physically healthy, rested, and well-nourished; able to communicate needs, wants and thoughts verbally; being enthusiastic and curious; knowing how to take turns; and knowing how to sit still and pay attention.” (What We Know about Early Childhood Interventions)
- “Children’s development is “jeopardized not only by poor-quality child care and the lack of affordable care, but also by a fragmented system of delivery and high turnover among providers due to inadequate compensation and working conditions.” (Starting Points)
- “Early brain development hinges to a significant extent on the kinds of experiences children have in the first years of life and the kinds of attachments they form with their parents.” “Early experience and early learning actually change the physical structure of the brain.” (Ahead of the Curve)
- Safety and consistency are terribly important during the early years. “Negative experiences, or the absence of appropriate stimulation, can have an especially powerful impact on children’s development.” (Ahead of the Curve)
- “Children’s early experiences have a decisive and lasting effect on the physical architecture of their brains.” (Ahead of the Curve)
- “It has been known for some time that the human brain achieves approximately 85% of its adult size (as measured by weight) by age 2 1/2 years, and 90% of total growth by age 3 (Purves, 1994).” (Investing in Our Children)
- “Early childhood is both the most critical and the most vulnerable time in any child’s development. Our research and that of others demonstrates that in the first few years, the ingredients for intellectual and moral growth must be laid down. Children who don’t get this nurturing are likely to be two or three steps behind, no matter how hard we try to help them catch up.” (Newsweek: Brazelton & Greenspan. 2000)
- Large national studies show that at-risk kids who attend high-quality child care programs have no more behavior problems at age eight than children of college-educated parents. (America’s Child Care Crisis)
- Children from centers improved by North Carolina’s “Smart Start” initiative were only about half as likely as comparison children to have serious behavior problems in kindergarten. (America’s Child Care Crisis)
- “The High/Scope Perry Preschool Project in Ypsilanti, Michigan provides one of the longest assessments of the effects of early childhood intervention for low-income children -- by investing in one or two years of preschool, the program aimed to improve cognitive and social outcomes in both the short and long run.” (Investing in Our Children)
- Many children --by some estimates one in three enter kindergarten without the skills they need to succeed in school.” (Ahead of the Curve)
- “Millions of young children are spending their days in child care arrangements that have been rated poor to mediocre by professional research observers.” (Ahead of the Curve)

COST OF CARE

- Many times child care isn’t available even if you can afford to pay. “One-third of working parents with children under the age of six surveyed in the 1997 NSCW said that they had needed to make special child care arrangements at least once during the previous three months because their usual arrangements were not available.” (Ahead of the Curve)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

"Ahead of the Curve." Executive Summary. Families and Work Institute: 2000.

America's Child Care Crisis: A Crime Prevention Tragedy: 2000 Report from Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

"Child care and the Welfare to Work Transition." National Bureau of Economic Research. Working Paper. March, 2000.

"Children in Need: Investment Strategies for the Educationally Disadvantaged." Committee for Economic Development. 1987.

"Family Well-Being and Welfare Reform in Iowa: A Study of Income Support, Health, and Social Policies for Low-Income People in Iowa" Iowa State University. 1999.

"From Birth to Three." Newsweek Special Edition: Spring/Summer, 1997.

"Investing In Our Children: What We Know and Don't Know About the Costs and Benefits of Early Childhood Interventions." Karoly, Lynn et. al.: RAND, 1998.

National Study of the Changing Workforce. Families and Work Institute. 1997.

"Our Window to the Future." Berry Brazelton and Stanley Greenspan. Newsweek, Special Fall/Winter 2000 Edition.

"Preschool Years: As the Twig Is Bent." RAND Research and Review, Vol XXI, No. 1. Spring, 1997.

"Starting Points: Meeting the Need of Our Youngest Children." Carnegie Corporation of New York. August, 1994.

State Developments in Child. Care and Early Education. Helen Blank. Children's Defense Fund. Feb. 2000.

"What We Know about Early Childhood Interventions." Based on Research by Janet Currie. Poverty Research News. July/August 2000, vol. 4, No. 4.

"What Does it Cost to Mind Our Preschoolers?" Lynne M. Casper. Current Population Reports. Census Bureau. September, 1995.

"Who's Minding the Kids?" Statistical Brief. Bureau of the Census. US Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. April, 1994.

The Iowa Consumer Advisory Team

Description

The Child and Family Policy Center, the Beyond Welfare Project and with support from Ecumenical Ministries of Iowa's CommUNITY for the Common Good Project is working at the state and local level to support consumer and community involvement in welfare-to-work strategies. This work includes the development of consumer leadership teams to advocate for reform, provide a source of peer support in securing and maintaining employment, to encourage and support leadership development, public speaking, and to provide consulting opportunities for participants of public assistance and other living in poverty.

Consumer Advisory Team: What is C.A.T.?

The Consumer Advisory Team (C.A.T.) is part of an effort to address system changes and barriers to work for families in poverty. The Consumer Advisory Team meets on a quarterly basis with top Department of Human Service administrators and Workforce Development. The umbrella Consumer Advisory Team is supported by local Consumer Leadership Teams in seven Iowa counties. Consumer representatives from each county attend the centrally located C.A.T. meetings and report back to their local group.

History

In July 1999, the Child and Family Policy Center approached the Director of the Iowa Department of Human Services, Jessie Rasmussen with an invitation to work with the Department of Human Services in enlisting consumer voices in further developing state welfare reform strategies. We proposed forming a Consumer Advisory Team (C.A.T.) representing consumer groups developed in seven Iowa counties including: Polk, Linn, Johnson, Story, Hamilton, Webster and Wayne County. Since that meeting, the C.A.T. has met six times and is focusing on child care as their top priority. One of the purposes of the team is to advise the Department of Human Services and Iowa Workforce Development on issues affecting families receiving benefits through the welfare system. Consumers, as experts on the system, have provided their advice and recommendations to the agency on policies and procedures needed to improve the system on several occasions. The agency, in turn, has initiated new ideas to the team for review and feedback and offer additional opportunities for consumer involvement at the state level. The concept of Consumer Leadership Team originated in Ames, Iowa with the Story County Beyond Welfare Project and was introduced as a "best practice" for system reform to the communities listed above. Following the initial excitement over welfare reform, community interest gradually decreased as other statewide issues took precedent; CLT's have been effective in refocusing community interest on the impact of welfare reform. The partnership with the Department of Human Services at the state level has helped to provide opportunities for involvement in local reform and greater attention to long-term support and involvement at the local level.

Who is involved?

This meeting is coordinated by the Child and Family Policy Center in collaboration with the Beyond Welfare Project with the support of Ecumenical Ministries of Iowa. Each

county is paired off with a staff technical assistance provider who provides information, facilitation and support to fledgling leadership teams. Staff also supports and organizes the quarterly C.A.T. meetings and facilitates monthly meetings, follow-up materials, and in-depth training.

How is C.A.T. funded?

Funding for the project and coordination of the Consumer Advisory Team is provided through a grant from the Joyce Foundation through April, 2003. Some of that funding has been contracted out to the Beyond Welfare Project to provide additional statewide support and technical assistance to communities working to establish CLT's and similar supports in other communities. Ecumenical Ministries of Iowa (EMI) is the sponsor organization for the CommUNITY for the Common Good Projects that are staffed by the AmeriCorps Volunteer In Service to America (VISTA) and supported by localecumenical ministry groups in each county. EMI received.. grant from the Northwest Area Foundation for coordination and technical assistance. VISTA's are responsible for coordination at the local level in five of the seven communities: Linn, Johnson,, Hamilton, Webster and Wayne County.: Local funding, support and in some cases staffing has been generated at the local level. Funding will become a high-priority as the project enters its next stage and must actively seek out dollars to incorporate CLT's as established programs.

Principles & Mission

The Consumer Advisory Team is guided by the principles accepted by local consumer leadership teams. Most important is a belief in all people as inherently intelligent.

When it does not appear that people are acting in an intelligent and cooperative manner there is an assumption that they are operating out of some kind of hurt; a personal, family hurt or a social-pain such as race of class. discrimination. Second is an understanding that people can move through their hurts and heal if they listen to other and are listened to, in a respectful manner. This is possible because they are capable of thinking intelligently, and have the ability to work through the struggles they are experiencing. Meetings are framed around this understanding of mutual respect and emphasize that shared information is confidential. Together this framework creates a safe environment that enables participants to build trusting relationships which help to prepare them as leaders in their community, as advocates, mentors and to be successful in employment and in their lives. A meal, transportation and child care are provided at every meeting. Public speaking and consulting opportunities are also supported as valuable contributions and likewise supported.

The mission of the Consumer Advisory Team was developed: by participants: "To ensure that all families leave welfare safely and permanently, by helping them move into a satisfying career that pays enough and allows them time to take care of their family." The strategy is a means for making the mission a reality: "To bring together consumers, volunteers and staff into action teams which develop solutions and provide support to families."

Meetings

A typical CLT is composed of both consumers and allies, these elements are also incorporated to the state level Consumer Advisory Team. Consumers include participants of public assistance programs and others living in poverty. Allies are interested individuals from the community that can offer resources and support to the group. At the meetings both allies and consumers equally participate.

There are two components to the meetings, the first is an advocacy and the second is peer support. The peer support piece offers opportunities to listen and be listened to -- in the form of listening pairs, journaling or structured group activities that address specific questions relevant to the theme of the meeting. As a group or in subgroups, teams work together on advocacy issues that frequently provide the only organized voice for consumers in the community. CAT/CLT helps prepare people to become advocates for themselves and people in similar situations; One of the main reasons consumers get involved and continue to be involved is because they want to help people like themselves so their families don't have to experience the same struggles. Currently, the Consumer Advisory Team is focusing on child care as a critical support and potential barrier to successful long-term stability. The Team would like to see Child Care Assistance eligibility raised to 85% of the state median income to better support working families.

Project Goals

There are several broader goals to the project, not the least of which is to introduce Consumer Leadership Teams to other communities and groups in Iowa. The following project goals address this aspect and the potential impact CLT's have for communities.

1. Support consumer leadership teams and consumer networks, document the manner in which they can be created and sustained, and identify the ways they support successful transitions to employment
2. Foster community commitments that produce both independence from welfare and economic self-sufficiency
3. Produce frontline practice changes that are more responsive to family needs and improve the effectiveness of family investment agreements as pathways to self-sufficiency
4. Document lessons learned and the key components of effective community partnerships

Success!

The ultimate goal of the Team is to provide speaking opportunities and engage members in state and local decision-making to develop solutions that support working families in Iowa. Some of the accomplishments and ongoing work of the Team include:

- Organized campaign to address child care as a major barrier to work
- Appointed Consumer Advisory Team members to serve as representatives on the State Welfare Reform Advisory Group
- Reviewed and edited standard reporting forms used by TANF recipients when notifying DHS of changes in income, address and employment

- Reviewed and critiqued new Power Point presentation as an orientation tool to new TANE participants
- Testimony to the Governor's Child Care Task Force
- Continue to provide input to local system restructuring
- Supported appointment and involvement of consumer representatives on local Empowerment Boards
- Developed new consumer leadership teams within existing counties and identify allies in other networked statewide organizations
- Testimony given by seven C.A.T. members to the Council on Human Services

One of the most important accomplishments of the Consumer Advisory Team is the development of a working relationship with the Department of Human Services (DHS) in a role that emphasizes consumer involvement as a crucial element in establishing policy. Only by providing opportunities for disenfranchised citizens in a supportive and engaging manner can we truly hope for lasting change and self-sufficiency as active members of the community. A quote from a recent publication of the forum supports this finding. *"Getting off welfare and becoming self-sufficient are different processes, the later remaining elusive for many during a long a difficult period of transition"* (vol. 3, no. 2, July 2000).

SITE COORDINATORS

| <u>County</u> | <u>Contact</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Phone</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Story | Lois Smidt | Beyond Welfare Project | 515-233-6851 |
| Polk | Deanna Brickels | Family Enrichment Center | 515-2820-9027 |
| Linn | Lynda Elgers | Ecumenical Center | 319-369-6254 |
| Johnson | Joan VanNatta | First Christian Church | 515-339-7303 |
| Wayne | Nancy Camardo | Wayne County Courthouse | 515-872-3550 |
| Polk | Steve Fields | Oakridge Neighborhood Center | 515-244-7702 ext. 121 |
| Hamilton & Webster | Robin Hamer | | 515-832-6492 |

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT STAFF

| <u>County</u> | <u>Contact</u> | <u>Phone</u> |
|----------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Johnson & Linn | Betsy Marmaras* ¹ | 319-648-2082 |
| Story | Scott Miller | 515-232-9285 |
| Polk | Victor Elias & Otis Henderson | 515-280-9027 |

¹ * Consumer Advisory Team Project Coordinator

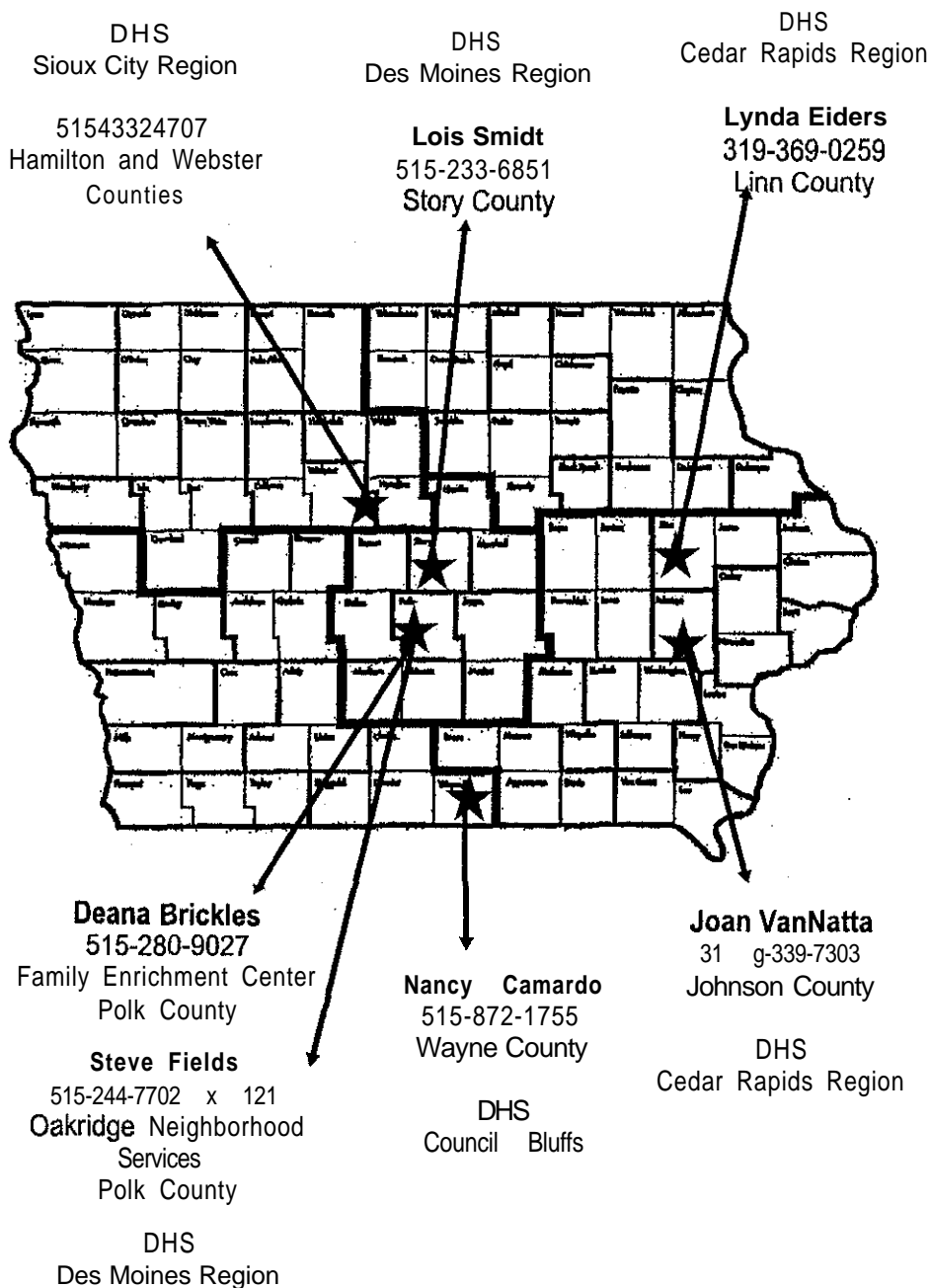
CONSUMER ADVISORY TEAM

Making A Change for Iowa's Families

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
BETSY MARMARAS
PROJECT COORDINATOR
PO BOX 4'28, RIVERSIDE, IA 52327
PHONE: 319-648-2082
FAX: 319-648-3073
marmaras@earthlink.net

The Consumer Advisory Team is an effort to bring policymakers and families together as partners to address system reforms that better assist families and inform state policy. The Team provides leadership development, public speaking, and consulting opportunities for participants of public assistance programs and others living in poverty. The ultimate goal of the Team is to involve members in state and local decision-making that creates solutions for better services and enhances community-based support for working families and to help all

Consumer Advisory Team Site Coordinators



The Consumer Advisory Team is a joint initiative of the Child and Family Policy Center in Des Moines, Beyond Welfare in Ames and in collaboration with the **CommUNITY** for the Common Good Project through the Ecumenical Ministries of Iowa. Members of the Team are citizens from Johnson, Linn, Polk, Story, Wayne, Hamilton, and Webster counties. State and regional officials from the administrative offices of the Iowa Department of Human Services and Iowa Workforce Development are also members of the team.

The ultimate goal of the Team is to provide opportunities and engage members in state and local decision-making to develop solutions that support working families in Iowa. Partnership with the Iowa Department of Human Services has provided opportunities for valuable input both locally and at the state level. Some of the accomplishments and ongoing work of the Team include:

- ♦ organized to address child care as a major barrier to work by advocating to raise child care assistance eligibility to 85% of the State Median Income Level.
- ♦ appoint Consumer Advisory Team members to serve as representatives on the State Welfare Reform Advisory Group
- ♦ reviewed and edited standard reporting forms used by TANF/FIP recipients when notifying DHS of changes in income, address and employment
- ♦ reviewed and critiqued **PowerPoint** presentation as an orientation tool to new TANF/FIP participants
- ♦ created a system of referral with **DHS/Promise Jobs** to provide **indepth** assessments to better identify family strengths and challenges to becoming self-sufficient in Story County
- ♦ continue to provide input to local system restructuring in Linn County
- ♦ initiated ongoing partnerships with the Iowa Department of Human Services and Iowa Workforce Development

has disability
f

Jane M. Watson - Boehmer

FIP 726 / mo.

9493 Timber Creek Drive ♦ Bondurant, Iowa 50035 ♦ Home (515) 967-4100

Creativity, Leadership, Influence, and Volunteerism

Childcare 500⁰⁰ / mo

EDUCATION:

Simpson **College**. Indianola, Iowa. Bachelor of Arts Degree. December 1994.
English Major/Art Minor, Dept. of Education. Amy Robertson Scholar.
1993 Undergraduate Assistant to Commuting Students

Southwestern Community College. Creston, Iowa. Associate of Arts Degree in Nursing & English. 1992

Patricia Stevens Fashion and Secretarial College. Omaha, Nebraska. May 1981
Vocational diploma With Scholastic Honors. Studies in Fashion Merchandising, Design. Interior Design. and Clerical. Received Professional Advertising Talent and Models Club Award.

Green Mountain Independent School. Green Mountain, Iowa. May 1980.
K-12, Hugh O'Brien Outstanding Sophomore. Student Senate Salutatorian.

Sociedade Brasileira de Belas Artes. Rio da Janeiro, Brazil.
Youth for Understanding Exchange Program, August 1978.
Bill Fisher Scholar. Worked with Salvador Dali.

EMPLOYMENT

Special Ed. **Associate**. West Des Moines Community Schools, Walnut Creek Campus. November 1998 - March 1999. Assisted in BD 37 Junior High Classroom.

Seaman. United States Naval Reserve, Des Moines, Iowa. February 1998 - November 1998

Freelance Artist. Correspondent Writer. Market Representative. January 1990 - Present.
Write Copy, Proof-reader, Graphic Art Production, Photography, Personal Appearance Model, Advertising Talent, Fine and Commercial Art Production, Personal In-Home Assistance.

Promotional Artwork created for Robert Waller's "Bridges of Madison County" music video and the Iowa Film Office. Spring 1994.

Optician, Optometric Assistant. Family Vision Clinic, Winterset, Iowa. January 1983 - 1992.
Reception desk. customer service, telephone, patient record management, eyewear selection visual display daily accounting, set appointments, insurance claim filing. train personnel.

Decorating Sale6 Wallcovering and Drapery Installations.
Homestead Decorating, Winterset, Iowa. 1983 - 1984

Customer **Service** Optician. Special Specs, Locust Mall, Des Moines, Iowa. 1980 - 1982.

Office Assistant. Madison County Attorney. Winterset, Iowa. [8 months full-time temp.] 1987.

Part-time and Holiday Retail Sales & Customer Assistance:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Bosselman Travel Center, Altoona, Iowa | 1998 |
| Petite Sophisticate, Des Moines, Iowa | 1996 |
| Target, West Des Moines, Iowa | 1992 - 1994 |
| Ardan Fine Jewelry, Des Moines, Iowa | 1982 |
| Younkers, Marshalltown, Iowa | 1979 - 1981 |

American Red Cross Volunteer Led over 200 displaced children with youth activities at Western Hills Red Cross Shelter during the Iowa flood of 1993.

Public Information Officer Iowa Foundation for Vision Awareness Volunteer, April 1988 - March 1992. Safety Spokesperson. Johnston, Iowa.

Youth Director Marshall County Red Cross
1978 - 1980.

Assistant to At Risk Students Indianola, Iowa Junior and Senior High School STARS program. 1993.

5 10

\$ 12,870,415

Operations.

DETAIL: Includes an increase of \$637,651 to fund the increased cost of support services.

5 11 4. For general administration:

5 12 \$ 3,227,683

TANF FY 2001 Block Grant appropriation for General Administration.

DETAIL: Includes an increase of \$106,612 to fund the increased cost of support services.

5 13 5. For local administrative costs:

5 14 \$ 2,147,358

TANF FY 2001 Block Grant appropriation for Local Administrative Costs.

DETAIL: Includes an increase of \$67,625 to fund the increased cost of support services.

5 15 6. For state child care assistance:

5 16 \$23,219,567

TANF FY 2001 Block Grant appropriation for Child Care Assistance.

DETAIL: Includes an increase of \$2,111,676 to increase child care provider rates by reimbursing at the 75th percentile of the 1998 provider rate survey, an increase of \$3,500,000 to fund increased child care caseload, and an increase of \$700,000 for the following child care initiatives:

5 17 a. Of the funds appropriated in this subsection, \$200,000
5 18 shall be used for child care emergency and start-up grants in
5 19 accordance with this paragraph. The funding allocated in this
5 20 paragraph shall be used to provide emergency grants to
5 21 existing licensed or registered child care facilities having
5 22 negative financial circumstances that will cause the
5 23 facilities to close without outside assistance. The funding
5 24 shall also be used to provide start-up funding to develop new
5 25 licensed or registered child care facilities that will
5 26 increase the availability of child care slots in communities.
5 27 The department shall establish criteria for distribution of
5 28 the grant funding. The criteria shall include a requirement
5 29 that grant funding is used to further the long-term financial
5 30 survival of grant recipients, a requirement that funding is
5 31 targeted to facilities providing essential child care services
5 32 to low-income families, required disclosure of necessary
5 33 financial information, establishment of a maximum grant amount
5 34 and a maximum number of grants to be issued in order to make

1. \$200,000 for emergency and start-up grants for child care facilities. Eligibility requirements and criteria for funding the grants are specified.
2. \$200,000 for financial assistance for providers of child care to school-age children. The purposes of the grants are specified, and local match is required.
3. \$300,000 for training of registered child care home providers.

325

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------|--------------------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Fiscal Information | Admin. & Regulation | Ag. & Natural Resources | Econ. Dev. | Education | Health and Human Rights | Human Services | Judicial Branch | Justice System | Trans. | Infrastructure and Capitals | Oversight & Comm. | Miscellaneous Appropriations Acts | Ways and Means Summaries | LFB Report |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------|--------------------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------|

PG LN

Senate File 2435

Explanation

5 35 funding available to as many facilities as possible, and other
6 1 provisions to ensure appropriate use of the funding.
6 2 b. Of the funds appropriated in this subsection, \$200,000
6 3 shall be used for assistance to providers of child care to
6 4 school-age children in accordance with this paragraph. Moneys
6 5 allocated in this paragraph shall be used for grants to
6 6 licensed child care facilities providing care to school-age
6 7 children as of July 1, 2000. The grants shall be used to
6 8 increase the number of school-age children served, for
6 9 expansion of slots, or for transportation costs. The grant
6 10 requirements shall include provision for local match in the
6 11 form of cash, in-kind services, or other support.
6 12 c. Of the funds appropriated in this subsection, \$300,000
6 13 shall be used for provision of educational opportunities to
6 14 registered child care home providers in order to improve
6 15 services and programs offered by this category of providers
6 16 and to increase the number of providers. The department may
6 17 contract with institutions of higher education or child care
6 18 resource and referral centers to provide the educational
6 19 opportunities. Allowable administrative costs under the
6 20 contracts shall not exceed five percent.
6 21 d. The application for any of the grants described in the
6 22 lettered paragraphs of this subsection shall not exceed two
6 23 pages in length.

The child care grant application form is limited to two pages.

6 24 7. For emergency assistance:
6 25 \$ 2,763,605

TANF FY 2001 Block Grant appropriation for Emergency Assistance.

DETAIL: Combined with the General Fund appropriation in 'Section 6 of this Act, the FY 2001 TANF Block Grant appropriation increases total 'program' funding by \$69,061 compared to the FY 2000 estimated net appropriation. The funding will allow the Emergency Assistance Program to continue through March 2001.

6 26 8. For mental health and developmental disabilities
6 27 community services:

TANF FY 2001 Block Grant appropriation for Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Community

SF 2344

b. Parents with a **family** income at or below one hundred percent of the federal poverty level who are under the age of twenty-one years and are participating, at a satisfactory level, in an approved training program or in an educational program.

c. Families with an income of more than one hundred percent but not more than one hundred forty percent of the federal poverty level whose members are employed at least twenty-eight hours per week.

d. Families with an income at or below one hundred seventy-five percent of the federal poverty level whose members are employed at least twenty-eight hours per week with a special needs child as a member of the family.

6. Nothing in this section shall be construed as or is intended as, or shall imply, a grant of entitlement for services to persons who are eligible for assistance due to an income level or other eligibility circumstance addressed in this section. Any state obligation to provide services pursuant to this section is limited to the extent of the funds appropriated for the purposes of state child care assistance.

Sec. 16. Section 239B.24, subsection 1, Code Supplement 1999, is amended to read as follows:

1. The following persons are deemed to be eligible for benefits under the state child care assistance program administered by the department in accordance with section 237A.13, ~~notwithstanding the program's eligibility requirements~~ o r a u -

Sec. 17. CHILD CARE REIMBURSEMENT ALTERNATIVES. The department of human services shall **review** alternatives for applying child care reimbursement rates on a county, cluster, and regional basis. The department shall prepare a report concerning the review, including findings and recommendations. The report shall be submitted to the members of the joint appropriations subcommittee on human services, legislative fiscal bureau, and legislative service bureau on or before December 15, 2000.

Approved April 7, 2000

CHAPTER 1068

WATER QUALITY INITIATIVES

S.F. 2371

AN ACT relating to the establishment of a water quality initiative program by the department of agriculture and land stewardship and the department of natural resources, defining and providing for the use of credible data **for quality** control and assurance procedures, and providing for other properly related matters, and providing an applicability date.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. NEW SECTION. 466.1 SHORT TITLE.

This chapter shall be **known and** may be cited as "Initiative on Improving Our Watershed Attributes (I on IOWA)".

Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 466.2 LEGISLATIVE GOAL.

The goal of this chapter **is** to develop a comprehensive water quality program that will **result** in water quality improvements while reducing proposed regulatory impacts. The Program shall use information, education, monitoring, technical assistance, data gathering

¹ See chapter 1232, §91 herein